REMARKS

The Abstract, specification, and claim 1-10 have been amended. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The specification has been amended to provide a cross-reference to the previously filed International Application, and the add headings to place the specification in better form for U.S. practice. The Abstract and claims have been amended to remove reference numerals and also to place them in better form for U.S. practice.

Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE:

The Abstract of the Disclosure has been amended as follows:

--Abstract of the Disclosure[:]

[The object of the invention is a] A method for detaching a barrier means [(12)] adapted to the end part [(2)] of the suction device for closing an opening [(5)] in the end part [(2)] by the movement of a plunger [(6)] intended for changing the volume of a cylindrical space [(4)] provided in the end part [(2)] whereby the barrier means [(12)] is removed by bringing means [(8, 9)] for limiting the movement of the plunger [(6)] in the cylindrical space [(4)], e.g. means [(10)] intended for removing the disposable tip [(3)], in such a position that the plunger [(6)] can be brought into contact with the barrier means [(12)] for detaching the barrier means [(12)] from the end part [(2)] of the suction device.--

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

A paragraph and headings have been added before the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 3.

A heading has been added before the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 13.

A heading has been added before the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 32.

A paragraph and heading have been added after the paragraph ending on page 4, line 5.

The paragraph beginning on page 4, line 7, has been amended as follows:

--The invention is described in the following in detail with embodiments by referring to the accompanying drawings which are given by way of illustration only, and thus are not limitative of the present invention, and in which--

A heading has been added before the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 14.

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims have been amended as follows:

1.(Amended) A method in a suction device, such as a mechanical pipette, comprising a body [(1)] and an associated end part [(2)] with an open distal end directed away from the body for removably attaching a disposable tip [(3)] enclosing a sample space [(11)] for receiving a liquid sample, the end part [(2)] of the suction device enclosing a cylinder space [(4)] containing a reciprocatingly movable means [(6)], a plunger, for changing the volume of the cylindrical space [(4)] for receiving a sample to the tip [(3)] and removing it therefrom, and to which end part [(2)] of the suction device is adapted a barrier means [(12)] ~~to~~ for closing an opening [(5)] in the end part [(2)], [**characterized** in that] wherein when the barrier means [(12)] is adapted to the end part [(2)] of the suction device are detached by moving the plunger [(6)] first in the direction of the opening [(5)] in the end part [(2)] of the suction device into contact with the barrier means [(12)] and then by moving the plunger [(6)] in the direction of the said opening [(5)] for removing the barrier means [(12)] from the end part [(2)] of the suction device.

2. (Amended) [A] The method according to claim 1, [**characterized** in that] wherein the suction device is provided with means [(8,9)] which limit the movement of the plunger [(6)] in the cylindrical space [(4)] and which can be brought to at least one such position in which the plunger [(6)] can be brought into contact with the barrier means [(12)] adapted to the end part [(2)] of the suction device for detaching the barrier means [(12)] from the end part [(2)] of the suction device.

3. (Amended) [A] The method according to claim 1, [**characterized** in that] wherein the means [(8,9)] for limiting the movement of the plunger [(6)] comprise of means [(10)] intended for detaching the removably to the end part [(2)] of the suction device attached disposable tip [(3)] which are positioned in such a position that the plunger [(6)] can be brought into contact with the barrier means [(12)] adapted to the end part [(2)] of the suction device.

4. (Amended) A method in the suction device, such as a mechanical pipette, comprising a body [(1)] and an associated end part [(2)] with an open distal end directed away from the body for removably attaching a disposable tip [(3)] enclosing a sample space [(11)] for receiving a liquid sample, the end part [(2)] of the suction device enclosing a cylinder space [(4)] containing a reciprocatingly movable means [(6)], a plunger, for changing the volume of the cylindrical space [(4)] for receiving a sample to the tip [(3)] and removing it therefrom, and to which end part [(2)] of the suction device is adapted a barrier means [(12)] to close an opening [(5)] in the end part [(2)], [**characterized** in that] wherein the barrier means [(12)] adapted to the end part [(2)] of the suction device are detached by moving the plunger [(6)] first in the direction of the opening [(5)] in the end part [(2)] of the suction device in that way that a telescopic extension of the plunger [(6)] comes into contact with the

barrier means [(12)] and then by moving the plunger [(6)] in the direction of the said opening [(5)] for removing the barrier means [(12)] from the end part [(2)] of the suction device.

5. (Amended) [A] The method according to claim 4, [**characterized** in that] wherein the suction device is provided with means [(8, 9)] which limit the movement of the plunger [(6)] in the cylindrical space [(4)] and which means can be brought to at least one such position in which the telescopic extension of the plunger [(6)] can be brought into contact with the barrier means [(12)] adapted to the end part [(2)] of the suction device for removing the barrier means [(12)] from the end part [(2)] of the suction device.

6. (Amended) [A] The method according to claim 5, [**characterized** in that] wherein the means [(8, 9)] for limiting the movement of the plunger [(6)] comprise means [(10)] intended for removing the removably to the end part [(2)] of the suction device attached disposable tip [(3)] which are positioned in such a position that the telescopic extension of the plunger [(6)] can be brought into contact with the barrier means [(12)] adapted to the end part [(2)] of the suction device.

7. (Amended) [A] The method according to one of claims 1-6, [**characterized** in that] wherein the suction device is multichannel.

8. (Amended) A suction device comprising a body [(1)] and an associated end part [(2)] with an open distal end directed away from the body for removably attaching a disposable tip [(3)] enclosing a sample space [(11)] for receiving a liquid sample, the end part [(2)] of the suction device enclosing a cylinder space [(4)] containing a reciprocatingly movable means [(6)], a plunger, for changing the volume of the cylindrical space [(4)]

for receiving a sample to the tip [(3)] and removing it therefrom, and means [(10)] for detaching the disposable tip [(3)] removably attached to the end part [(2)], [**characterized** in that] wherein the suction device is provided with means [(8, 9)] which limit the movenment of the plunger [(6)] in the cylindrical space [(4)] and which can be brought to at least one position in which the plunger [(6)] can be brought into contact with the barrier means [(12)] adapted to the end part [(2)] of the suction device for detaching the barrier means [(12)] from the end part [(2)] of the suction device.

9. (Amended) [A] The suction device according to claim 8, [**characterized** in that] wherein the means [(10)] in the suction device for detaching the disposable tip [(3)] from the end part [(2)] of the suction device can be brought to a position in which they limit the movement of the plunger [(6)] in the cylindrical space [(4)].

10. (Amended) [A] The suction device according to claim 8 or 9, [**characterized** in that] wherein the suction device is multichannel.